



Dkt. 59469/JPW/AJM/MVM

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert H. DeBellis and Bernard F. Erlanger
Serial No.: 09/828,413 Examiner: S. Saucier
Filed: April 6, 2001 Art Unit: 1651
For: METHODS OF TREATING SICKLE CELL DISEASE

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
April 7, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

APR 16 2003

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 5, 2003
OFFICE ACTION AND PETITION FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Communication is submitted in response to the February 5, 2003 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the February 5, 2003 Office Action was originally due March 5, 2003. Applicants hereby petition for a one-month extension of time. The required fee for a one-month extension of time for a small entity is FIFTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$55.00) and a check for this amount is enclosed. A response to the February 5, 2003 Office Action is now due April 5, 2003. However, since April 5, 2003 falls on a Saturday, a response filed on the next business day, i.e. Monday, April 7, 2003, is considered timely. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted pending claims 1-19 to one of the following allegedly distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

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